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NANKING

Jan.-Feb., 1905

According to your faith be it unto you

Prayer-cycle of our Mission. 1 Sam. 12:23

MONDAY, CHINKIANG

THURSDAY, KIUKIANG

TUESDAY, NANKING

FRIDAY, NANCHANG

WEDNESDAY, WUHU

SATURDAY, CHIENCHANG

SUNDAY, THE ENTIRE MISSION

The Redistribution Meeting

As the report of this meeting follows so soon after that of the Estimate meeting, there will be no need of going into details.

In a recent number of the Record a full outline of the different classes for which Estimates are made was given, and the work of the Redistribution meeting is to divide the money appropriated for the coming year among these different classes.

SOME PROBLEMS

which came before the meeting were these:

1. How to make \$38,000 of appropriation stretch out so as to cover \$48,000 of Estimates.

2. How to get four new missionaries out of \$900 appropriation.

3. How certain properties which had been secured for the mission, but were in many cases, and for many reasons not usable, should be disposed of.

HOW THEY WERE SOLVED.

1. There are certain estimates which cannot be touched. First of all these are the salaries of both the missionary and his native co-laborer. You cannot put out your fire and still keep up the steam. If there are any workers at all, they must first of all be provided for.

Some of the excess was provided for by the necessary but unexpected early return of two of our missionaries to America. Their travelling expenses being provided from the contingent fund relieved the mission.

Several hundred dollars were saved through the kindness of friends in America who by special gifts provided for a number of our native preachers. This is one of the methods by which our work can be extended, or rather better manned. Gifts of \$30. and \$40. during the past year have come in from a large number of sources. We are glad to say that this desire for a personal link with some worker on the field is increasing. May it still increase until all the dark places of earth have seen the Light!

Most of our institutions come up nobly to the assistance of the mission when large cuts are necessary.

Our Hospital in Wuhu out of a proposed expenditure of \$1,625 (gold) has asked nothing from the Society, raising all its expenses locally.

Our hospital in Nanking while proposing to spend \$1,950 (gold) asks the society for only \$750. Both of these hospitals do a large dispensary work, and see from 16,000 to 25,000 patients, every year.

The University at Nanking while proposing to spend \$2,710 is asking for only \$1,250 of it. It is not easy for these institutions to do this but by rigid economy and careful planning they feel that in this emergency they are willing to stand a large share of the strain, rather than leave it for the evangelistic work to carry.

After all this was done some two or three thousand dollars yet remained to be cut out. That last cut thought necessary seemed to be a stroke at the very life of the mission, a cut in reinforcements.

We have not enough men to properly oversee the work when all are on the field; and when through sick-

ness or needed furlough any have to return home their places are left vacant, or are overseen by one who lives far away and in addition has full work of his own. And yet although we estimate for reinforcements, at the last moment a large part of what seems so necessary to save the work and workers has to be cut out. It is thus that we made \$38,000 stretch out to cover what \$48,000 was supposed to cover.

(2) The second problem was worked out while solving the first. We have asked for four new missionaries with but \$900 appropriation.

Two of these are physicians, one for Nanking and one for Wuhu. The medical work in each of these places is becoming too much for one physician to attend to, and the physicians in charge propose to raise the salary of a new physician on the field. The outgoing of these men however must be provided at home. Both R. C. Beebe, of Nanking, and Dr. E. H. Hart, of Wuhu, are at present in America and they are requested by the mission to secure the outgoing expenses, of these new physicians. We understand that one is already provided for. It is hoped that the other may be without delay.

The third and fourth of the reinforcement are to be provided for out of the \$900.

One is an evangelist whom the Board has been requested to appoint, and who is now on the field. He has been in missionary work for some years and is an excellent worker. He will not be able to begin work till later in the year, and \$300 has been set a part for that.

The other is a teacher whom the Secretaries have been requested to appoint and send out from America

for the University. The University proposes to provide half the salary from its local receipts and \$600 is sufficient for the rest.

It was thus that we redistributed for four new missionaries on an appropriation of \$900.

(3) The third problem was easier than we had anticipated. The Presiding Elders in charge of the districts where the properties were located, in conjunction with the Superintendent, presented so satisfactory a plan for the disposition of these properties, that it was accepted by the mission and was referred back to these Presiding Elders to work out along the lines suggested.

SOME THOUGHTS SUGGESTED BY THE REDISTRIBUTION MEETING

We come face to face with the problem every year of "How are we going to increase our missionary force?" Our work, our workers, are feeling the stress and strain of overwork, and the exigencies of unexpected sicknesses are constantly being met. It is absolutely necessary, therefore, that the number of our workers be increased.

Unless the appropriations in the future can be increased more than they have been during the past few years we will be unable to provide for new workers directly from them. The Station Plan, as established by the society, gives no promise to any particular mission that special efforts which any of its members may make will increase their appropriation to any large extent. It would seem that there are two ways in which the needs of the field can be met without using the increase in appropriations, viz., Self-support for

the work on the field in so far as that is at all possible, and, Where self-support is impossible, personal representation of the need of any particular work to individuals who will give as a Special Gift, for any especially needy work.

All such help for special work relieves the general appropriations by so much and thus in time sufficient may be realized to provide for the needed reinforcements.

W. F. W.

Impressions of a Kiangsi Trip

A recent tour through the two Kiangsi districts, of which Rev. Edward James and Rev. J. F. Wilson are the presiding elders, gave rise to certain impressions which may interest readers of the Record.

The trip out from Nanchang and back, taken in company with the above brethren, occupied just five weeks. The distance travelled by sedan chair and on boat was 2000 li, almost every place being visited where work had ever been opened. Owing to the unsatisfactory character of the work which had been carried on the most of these places had been closed at least temporarily, and few if any of the places not visited will be reopened.

After as thorough examination of the situation as circumstances would permit, I came to the conclusion, with which the brethren with me heartily agree, that whatever have been the mistakes of the past, the greatest possible effort should be made in the future to preach a pure gospel, and by the manifestation of the truth, seek to redeem the name of the church from any odium which may have hitherto attached to it. There

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has been a tendency to despondency, and except we look away to the source of our strength, there is much reason for it still: but the victory which overcometh the world is our faith.

One could hardly avoid a feeling of depression at the appalling ignorance of Christian truth on the part of professed believers. Too much reliance has been placed upon conventional preaching, and little attention given to systematic instruction, catechetical and otherwise. This the presiding elders are determined to remedy as quickly as possible, making some fairly definite requirements of knowledge from candidates for probation and for admission into the church in full. While attaching no less importance to the evidences of the work of the Holy Spirit in heart and life, requirements of knowledge of Scripture, catechism, our Articles and General Rules, etc. prove excellent sieves with which to separate the sincere from the insincere. Few schemers will work hard enough to pass the tests.

There is a great lack of efficient and faithful preachers. Normally a work, with temporary help in the beginning, should provide its own preachers. But so much of the work in the region visited has been superficial or worse that there are only two or three preachers to show for a decade of work. As a consequence there is a constant drain on the other parts of the mission to meet the deficiency and a shortness everywhere. Many places are without preachers and others receive but scant attention.

One is impressed with the beauty and fertility of the country in the heart of the Kiangsi Province and the general prosperity of its people. Nanchang is one of the largest and most prosperous cities in the Empire, and now that its attitude of determined hostility has given place to one of friendliness, it should become one of the greatest of mission centers. A good beginning has been made by several missions, but there is little compared with what there should be.

Our work in that region is detached from the rest of the mission. Over one hundred miles of lake and sand dunes separate Nanchang from the Yangtse, and the outstations all lie beyond Nanchang. Indeed the separation is greater than between the southeastermost station and the first station in the Foochow Conference. At one point we were only five miles from the Foochow border end, only three or four days' journey from Yungbing. An actual joining of the borders may be hoped for in the not distant future. May we not look to God to so prosper this work that the two districts may develop in a couple of decades into a strong and prosperous Kiangsi Annual Conference?

S. L.

Commencement Exercises of Nanking Girls School

The three important events in a person's life are said to be birth, marriage, and death; but to those whose privilege it is to finish an extended course of study in a good school, graduation is by no means a secondary matter. Its significance is not decreased by its importance to the educational institution whose very purpose is to give her children year by year to open the fountains of intellectual life to those about them.

The value of this privilege has long been realized but to the Nanking Methodist Girls' School, it has hitherto been denied. Though under graduate students have long held positions of trust and honor, it was reserved for the year 1905 to see her first diplomas awarded.

Commencement day was preceded by the baccalaureate sermon, delivered by Dr. Geo. A. Stuart, Sunday morning, January twenty-ninth, from the text, "The king's daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold." Psa. 45:13. After explaining that 'within,' meant within the king's palace Dr. Stuart captivated the girls by describing in detail the beautiful adornings of the king's daughter, which proved when his fine figures were developed to be modesty, purity, patience, faith, hope, and love.

Monday evening a dinner was served at the school to the seniors, ladies of the faculty, and a few former students and friends.

Wednesday, February first, was chosen as commencement day, and there having been heavy rains on

the previous Wednesday when Nanking University had graduated her students, not a little anxiety was expressed that we might have a beautiful day—and such it proved, though not in the way anticipated, for in the night, Nature clothed herself in a beautiful garment of white, as if in gala dress for the occasion; but interest in this event was not to be smothered by a few inches of snow, and in due time the church was packed so that even standing room was at a premium. American Consul Gracey favored the school with his presence, and the Viceroy's family was represented by his eldest daughter-in-law, Lady Choe, her little son, two small daughters, and a grand-daughter. She was also accompanied by Mrs. Wan, wife of the special attaché of the Viceroy, and by Miss Yang, daughter of the commissioner of foreign affairs.

As the pupils of the school are found in all the grades from the lowest primary to the high-school, and as there were only two graduates, it was thought best not to confine the programme to the conventional commencement exercises, but to render a general school program. Its distinguishing features were the music, which was abundant and showed careful training; an oration, "Where there's a will, there's a way" by Miss Hsia Kwei Chen; a dialogue, "A Lesson in Geography," composed by Mr. Kiang, Chinese Principal of the school, which by its brightness and wit greatly interested the audience; the graduating oration by Miss Yuen Yuh Ying, "How Shall China Advance;" and the presentation of diplomas by Miss Ella C. Shaw, Superintendent of the school.

The graduates, Miss Yuen Yuh Ying and Mrs. Wang Tien Tsing were recipients of beautiful presents from the family of the Viceroy and others.

After the exercises which all voted a success, the party from the Viceroy's Yamen visited the School and Ladies' Home, and spent some time in social intercourse.

The attention lately being paid by the officials and teachers of China to the education of girls is indeed a hopeful sign. The number of teachers not identified with the Christian religion who were present at these exercises was especially a subject of comment. The interest of all classes is growing apace and if all who have applied for places in the school for next year come, it will be but a few days before it will be necessary to turn pupils away. We are trying to devise every possible plan to make room for them, but last year the building was overcrowded, and it is plainly to be seen that there can be but little more enlargement of this part of the work until we have the new building for which we are hoping and praying. Will you not hasten its coming by adding your prayers and your influence in our behalf?

EDITH M. CRANE.

Nanking, China, Feb. 18, 1905.

The Welcome to Our Eastern Home

Welcome! welcome! how do you do?
Welcome! welcome! how do you do?
We bring you kisses and all good wishes,
Welcome! welcome! how do you do?

In these words, just outside our mission walls, the smiling school girls, accompanied by Miss Shaw

and Miss White, greeted Miss Alice Peters and ourselves on our return home from furlough. Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Trindle we had already met, while other friends had been waiting many hours at the bulk for the belated steamer which brought us once again to our desired haven.

The girls returned to the school premises next door and with the other friends we came into our home where we joined in the Doxology and prayers of gratitude to our Father for His "tender mercies toward us."

We found the dear old house swept and garnished even the beds being ready for our travel worn bodies. Vines and flowers decorated the rooms, making every thing so homelike that it seemed we might have only been absent a few weeks for a little "outing," instead of having crossed and recrossed the ocean and traveled many miles over mountain and plain. How kind the hearts!

Then there was the reception by the Association for us all. *Us all* means the large party of missionaries, some returning, others coming for the first time to the Disciples and Methodist missions, and those leaving—Mrs. Molland and family for England, Rev. and Mrs. Trindle for Yangchow. It all reminds me of the remark made by a lady in Honolulu to the effect that the society of that summer land was the nicest, kindest in the world. Nanking bears a like reputation.

And the letters penned to reach us in Yokohama, Shanghai, and since arriving in Nanking! Wasn't it lovely to have such a welcome, and more lovely in the dear ones who gave it.

What a joy to be again in the work!

The children, too. Who can imagine *their* feelings! Possibly the delights of even civilized America would pall in the presence of the familiar sights and sounds of their childhood surroundings. Can we doubt that an inexpressible, home-like sensation comes over them as they look once again on the yellow waters of the mighty Yangtse, the well known hills, the little fields with their bypaths, the graceful bamboo groves, the dark-skinned, black queued, loud voiced, blue-dressed natives, the strings of little gray donkeys, the creaking wheelbarrows, the sedan chairs, yes, even the beggars look natural. How delicious the call of the candy, peanut, and *u tiao* venders! It is the season of chrysanthemums. What beauties! and almost time for the game: duck, pheasant and geese, How familiar every thing seems! Scarcely a change excepting the one local telephone line since we left more than a year ago.

But what changes to us who first saw Nanking in 1886!

Now when our ship comes into port we see along the river bank numbers of rickshas and carriages. We call a carriage or what in some more favored port, once must have been the semblance of one, and drive to our home. Nineteen years ago we were rowed up the canal outside the city walls from the Hiakwan gate to the west gate of the city, from which point we, the objects of unconcealed curiosity, took chairs or walked to the hospital. Now our carriage enters the city at Hiakwan gate and we drive along an excellent, solid road, bordered by pretty shade trees. We pass large, brick buildings

erected in "foreign style"—the home for the customs' foreign assistants, one of the military schools, the spacious premises provided for the Commissioner of Customs, the U. S. and German Consulates, Home for customs' students, the fine grounds and buildings of the Disciples' Hospital, Boys' School and three parsonages, leaving somewhat to our left their girls' school and the Advent mission.

Reaching our own home we find three M. E. parsonages besides the Adeline Smith Home of "Our Ladies," their girls' school and school for women and the beautiful campus of Nanking University. Should we go on to our hospital $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles distant we would pass in sight of the Quakerage—home, orphanage and hospital, by the Presbyterian mission which at this point consists of two parsonages and one "Ladies' Home," a chapel, native parsonage, boy's day school and girls' boarding school, while about one mile to the southeast is their boys' boarding school, a new church and a dwelling house. But here we are at Philander Smith Memorial Hospital in which we had our first home in China.

Many changes have been made. The hospital itself improved by additions and increased conveniences. Here are three parsonages for missionaries and two good homes for special native helpers and a beautiful church all in adjoining grounds.

From this point we look far to the northwest and see, within the walls, the pavilion crowned hill which overshadows a new city, *our* "Silent city," where side by side repose the temporal part of those who upon the walls of Zion "put off their armor" and those "precious

jewels," "the flowers that grow between." Jubilantly we sang:

"There is no death! What seems so is transition

This life of mortal breath
Is but a suburb of the elysian,
Whose portal we call death."

Leaving the hospital grounds we drive on through the city, (there now being several good carriage roads with promise of more), and are impressed not so much by the things Chinese as by the buildings we see here and there, imitating, at least partly Occidental architecture; some used for dwellings but more for the "New learning" for which the people are now so eager.

Again we exclaim, What changes!

And is that all? *Only* buildings and grounds!

Nay verily Then we found only four "foreign" buildings,—the Methodist hospital, two Presbyterian parsonages and girls' school,—nine adults, five men and four women. Now, in all Nanking, including *only* mission property and workers, thirty-five buildings and forty-two adults, thirteen of whom are men, and *several hundred Christians*. What an increase in force, yet pitifully small when we think of the time elapsed, and sadly deficient with half a million souls within the city and a vast multitude without depending upon this few for the Bread of Life. We look up with yearning hearts and cry "What are these among so many?"

Across the water in a nation, great because founded on Christian principles, we see in *one* favored city alone eighty Methodist churches to say nothing of the number of sister churches. We stretch out our arms toward that land calling: "Come over into Macedonia and help us."

Many more might rejoice in our Father's graciously bestowed privilege of gathering in the sheaves. A larger number of harvesters would be able to save more of the precious grain, which the terrific storms of sin are sweeping away, but—"Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid neither dismayed for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest," and the nineteen years ago the "cloud of witnesses" was "no bigger than a man's hand" it has grown and will grow until showers of blessing satisfy the thirsty land: for "I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me."

A. G. S.

Graduation Week at Nanking University

Notwithstanding the very inclement weather prevailing during the four days of commencement season at Nanking University, a very pleasant and profitable programme was carried out. On Sunday morning, the 22nd of January, the Baccalaureate sermon was preached by the president, the subject being "Character Building," from the text "Tell the towers thereof." In the evening the University sermon was preached by the Rev. Spencer Lewis, from the text "Christ, the power of God, and the wisdom of God." On Monday occurred the banquet given to the graduates by the other students, and in the evening the public exhibition of the Literary Society. On Tuesday afternoon there was a reception to the graduates, alumni, and faculty at the home of the president. In the evening Mr. C. H. Robertson, local Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., delivered a lecture on "Mechanics."

Wednesday, the 25th of January, was Graduation Day. The time fixed for the exercises was 10 a.m. By eight o'clock the invited officials and literati began to arrive. All the principals of the Chinese Schools had come by 9.30. At ten o'clock His Excellency, Viceroy Chou Fu, arrived with full suite. He was received in the guest hall of the University, where he requested that the graduating class be presented to him. To these he spoke a few words of most excellent advice and encouragement; and at the same time offered some valuable suggestions as to the management of the University. He then went to the Chapel where, after hearing a hymn sung and inspecting the facsimile of the Empress Dowager's Bible which is kept there, he spoke a few words to the assembled students, urging upon them sincerity and faithfulness in observing the teachings whether of Confucius or Christ. After expressing himself as very much pleased with everything he saw, he took his leave at a few minutes after eleven.

After the departure of the Viceroy the regular programme was proceeded with. Prayer was offered by Rev. H. F. Rowe, Dean of the Fowler School of Theology. The honour thesis for the College of Liberal Arts was read by Mr. Han An-fuh on the subject "Self-culture and Patriotism." Following this was the honour thesis of the Fowler School of Theology, by Mr. Chang Yung-hsün on the subject, "The Relation of Religions Reform to National Progress." Then came the honour thesis of the School of Medicine on "A Comparison of Chinese and Western Methods of Practice," by Mr. Cheo Sz-foh. The Commencement Address, which followed, was delivered by Dr. J. C.

Ferguson, of Shanghai, the founder and former president of the school. After briefly reviewing the history of the school, the speaker expressed his satisfaction at seeing so many of its students going out to positions of honour and usefulness, and in closing urged upon the graduates the giving of the self for the good of country and race. The Viceroy's gift of \$200 to be distributed among the graduates was then announced, and the prize of books offered by Mr. J. F. Newman to the two students holding the best average grades throughout the course in the theological and collegiate departments was given to Mr. Kao Len-ching and Mr. Han An-fuh respectively. Colonel Lo Chang-chi, manager of the Military School, also presented each of the graduates with some books and stationer's supplies. The exercises closed with the conferring of degrees and presentation of diplomas by the President.

The whole number of graduates was fourteen—three from the collegiate department, three from the theological, and eight from the medical.

N. C. Daily New.

Official Recognition of a Mission School

Viceroy Chou Fu was very much pleased with his visit to Nanking University. Two days after, he sent around his interpreter to say that he wished to see the graduates at his official residence. But as these had all gone to their homes, it was not possible to get them together again until after Chinese New Year.

At the request of the president, the favor of the Viceroy's invitation was extended to all alumni of the school. Accordingly, as many of these as could be brought together were received in audience by His Excellency on the morning of Feb. 21st, at seven o'clock. He received them most cordially, and after conversing with them awhile announced to them that he proposed to confer upon each of them official rank. Upon a member of the first graduating class he conferred a button of the fifth rank; upon those of subsequent classes except the last one of the sixth rank; and upon all the members of the last class the seventh rank.

This is a thing that, so far as we know, has not been done before in China; and it marks an era of good feeling toward, and appreciation of, the Western schools established by the Christian Church here, by a man high in the counsels of the empire, and one capable of judging of the value of such institutions to the country.

THE NEW SEMESTER

The new year at the University opened with a large increase of students. Our dormitories are now full, and if we are to take more students, our recitation space and force of teachers would enable us to do, we must have increase of dormitory accommodations. We now have students from all parts of the Yangtse valley, and two are still to arrive from distant Szechuen. The number of the students coming from remote places in the interior is increasingly greater each term, which equally shows that Western ideas are reaching the most obscure portions of the empire, and that the reputation is

also penetrating to these districts. The students we are receiving are in the main of the more desirable class. They are of those who value an education for itself and not alone as a means to a mercenary end. From most ancient times in China the legitimate end of an education has been considered to be temporal success. So it is refreshing to find a few who regard it as a means for the cultivation of all their individual powers in preparation for life.

OUR GRADUATES

The three collegiate graduates of last year remain with us as teachers. They are all young men of exceptional ability and promise, and we do well to have them on our staff. Of the three graduates of the School of Theology one is gone as evangelistic assistant to Edward James, Presiding Elder of Central Kiangsi District, one is evangelist at the Wuhu Hospital, while the other who has a throat difficulty which prohibits him from doing much public speaking, remains here as an assistant in North Nanking and as a student in the College. Of the medical graduates, three are employed in the work at Philander Smith Memorial Hospital, one at Wuhu Hospital, one in the Presbyterian Hospital at Huai-yuen, one in private practice at Luho, one has been engaged by the Viceroy for a new hospital that he is about to open, and one is at present seeking a location. Thus out of the fourteen graduates eleven are in mission work. This fact is the more encouraging when we know that several are doing Christian work on a much less income than they could secure from other employment.

G. A. S.

Sights and Sounds from my Study Window

I was awakened one night, about midnight by a chorus of voices. All were talking at the same time and very excitedly. Suddenly out of all the other voices came what seemed to be the wail of a child being punished. I could, it seemed, almost hear the strokes which brought out the repeated shrieks which grew louder and louder. The sounds came almost directly from under my window and as there were no signs of their ceasing, and sleep was impossible, I dressed and went out on the street to inquire the cause.

To my surprise I found not a child but a full grown woman who was doing the howling. She was sitting on the ground surrounded by a dozen or more men and women. One of the men held her by the wrist with one hand and with the other was striking her from time to time. With every pull and every stroke the howling was increased. I tried to inquire what was the matter but as it was not very bright, although light enough to see, they did not recognize me at first as a foreigner, and continued their clamor.

I soon, however, made my presence known, and the noise ceased. I asked what the trouble was, and this was the story.

The woman had been having a quarrel with her husband. He had beaten her and she, unwilling to endure it longer, had run away and was going back to her mother. When the man found that she had gone he quickly collected some neighbors and started after her.

They caught her at the corner near my window and the noises I

had heard resulted. Her husband had tried to force her to go back, both by pulling and beating, and she naturally exercised her prerogative of saying No! and of throwing herself upon the ground to emphasize her purpose.

I prevailed upon the man to stop forcing the woman against her will, and advised them to quietly come to some agreement which was satisfactory to all, and then the woman would go willingly.

I then left them and the advice was evidently satisfactory for I soon heard them all starting away talking more quietly.

What a lot is woman's in this homeless country! She has no redress. They are not all unhappy, but it is because those who are over them are by nature kind. Let sin in its worst forms harden the heart, and woman is no more considered a companion in the home but a slave to her husband's appetites and passions.

A Christian home planted in the heart of China preaches its own sermon.

F.

Notes from Nanchang

The Girls' School closed a successful semester on January 20, when all of the girls went to their homes for the New Year Holidays. This mid-winter vacation lasts about a month, much to the general disapproval of the foreigners in charge of educational work. Foreigners are loth to lose so many valuable weeks of the year for study, and would much prefer to limit the midwinter rest to ten days, adding the balance of the time to the summer vacation, when it is almost impossible to do effective literary work. But the Chinese do

not seem to see it that way; and the New Year festivities, and family reunions are not to be set aside nor prejudiced for anything else of whatever sort or nature.

A change has been made at our Pan Pu Kuai property, removing a part of the compound wall and exposing the front of the chapel to the main street. A large double-door has also been opened in the front of the building, so that now the chapel opens directly on the street. When meetings are going on the people can now see, and come in, without having to get through three doors, and without seeming to trespass upon private property, as formerly. As was the necessity, so now is the success of this apparent. As one of the preachers remarked: "Formerly we preached here to empty benches; now we have people."

The work of bunding our river front has begun in earnest. We have over six hundred feet of frontage of our property here. Part is already protected; but we need to build over five hundred feet of new. The concrete foundation for this we have finished, and some work on the stone has been begun at the upper end; but it will be some months yet before we can get much done on the stone work.

A further improvement on the compound is the completion of the well. Hitherto we have had to get all our water from the river. Considering that we are on the downstream side, and within half a mile of a centre of population of a million people; that the water at best is always filthy, and at high water is laden with mud if nothing more objectionable; the need of a well is apparent.

On January 24th Brother Kiang Ming Ch'i was married. The bride was Miss Wang, formerly one of Dr. Kahn's most able assistants. Some sixty or seventy guests were invited. Some necessary repairs had been made on the parsonage, and friends of the bride and groom had gotten the place into nice appearance. The ceremony was performed by the Presiding Elder, and followed by a brief gospel exposition and exhortation. The feast was fit for a king, and did honor to all concerned, as did all who partook do honor to it.

So far as we have progressed on our District round, the men are all taking hold of their work with vigor and zeal. Work has been re-opened on the Tsin Hsien Circuit by Li Yuin Shen. May his tribe increase! At Li Kia Tu, a few days ago, in a public meeting six men promised to read a chapter of the New Testament every day, and to read the entire New Testament through during the year. This was a New Year pledge. We hope it will be faithfully carried out.

The snow fall in this region is greater this year than for many years past. Snow has been falling almost continually for several days, and at this writing there is a depth of about four inches. Itinerating under these circumstances is exceedingly difficult. What with the cold, the wet, and the bad roads there is much personal suffering, and coolies hesitate to move.

Everywhere is felt the need of more intense and intelligent conduct of the work of preaching the gospel. Our preachers must be teachers. They must stand before the people as men of recognized intelligence, to whom one is not ashamed to be

found listening; men who have a message from God, and who know how to present that message so as to enter the minds and hearts of the hearers. For a message from God that is not intended to find the hearts of men, and to bring the affections and the will, yea every thought, into captivity, such a message we do not understand. Hence the need of men who have had such a mighty call of God that they prepare for a mighty deliverance of His message. Hence the need, too, for opportunities for preparation and exercise of the gifts that are in them for proper constant mental exercise and discipline so that the powers of mind may be kept at highest efficiency. Everywhere and always we are impressed with the need of a small select library in each of our native parsonages. We must have this, or something that will answer the purpose, namely sufficient mental food and stimulus to keep our preachers in a better condition for service. Do let us quickly get into operation some plan that shall offer effective relief.

E. J.

Notes

A number of our missionaries sailed for the homeland during the month of January. Dr. and Mrs. Hart and family started January 10, per Korea. Their early return home was called for by the severe illness

of Mrs. Hart which made an operation imperative.

Miss Maddock, who had but arrived on the field as nurse for Dr. Hart's hospital, cared for Mrs. Hart up to the time of sailing and also accompanied them home. She expects to come back to China immediately.

Mr. and Mrs. Maclean and family also sailed in January for home, nearly a year before the furlough was due. Mr. Maclean is also facing a serious operation.

Dr. Lucy Hoag and Miss Laura White of Chinkiang started for home on the fourteenth of January taking the European route. The furlough of each lady was overdue and rest was much needed. Dr. Hoag began her first term in China thirty-three years ago and because of her many years of experience her counsel is considered invaluable in the sittings of the W. F. M. S.

Miss Sarah Peters has been spending some weeks in Chinkiang under the care of Dr. Taft.

The friends of Mrs. R. C. Beebe will be rejoiced to hear that word from her is constantly more and more hopeful and that Dr. Beebe is already anticipating his return to his work in the early fall.

Miss Carrie Dreibelbies completed her first term of service this year and sailed in January for the homeland.

MISSIONARIES OF THE CENTRAL CHINA MISSION

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Meadville Penn.	150 Fifth Ave.,
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534 W. 124th St.,	Miss Mary C. Robinson,
New York City.	Chinkiang.
Dr. M. R. Charles, Wuhu.	Dr. Lucy A. Hoag, Chinkiang.
Mrs. C. W. Hall, Nanking.	Dr. Gertrude Taft, Chinkiang.
Dr. E. H. Hart,	Miss Grace Crooks, Chinkiang.
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Rev. Edward James,	Miss Alice Peters, Nanking.
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Rev. J. R. Trindle, Yangchow.	Lehighton Pa.
Mrs. L. M. Walley, Kiukiang.	Miss Thirza Pierice, Kiukiang.
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